

Message Text

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61

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DRC-01 /049 W

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R 121633Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8089

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ETRN, HA

SUBJECT: TRANSLINEAR FLIGHTS TO ILE DE TORTUE

REF: PAUP 0933

1. UPON RECEIVING A REPORT THAT TRANSLINEAR OFFICIALS WERE NOT GIVEN PERMISSION TO FLY TO ILE DE TORTUE DESPITE EARLIER GOH ASSURANCES (REFTEL) EMBASSY OFFICERS CALLED ON BOTH SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY FOURCAND AND CHIEF OF STAFF GENERAL HILAIRE TO DISCUSS PROBLEM.

2. ACCORDING TO BOTH OFFICIALS, BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT NO RPT NO FLIGHTS ARE BEING AUTHORIZED TO TORTUE AT PRESENT. ALTHOUGH NEITHER OFFICIAL WOULD GIVE A REASON FOR BAN, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT HAS BEEN IMPOSED FOR SECURITY REASONS.

3. FOURCAND SAID THAT THE TRANSLINEAR REQUEST TO MAKE THE TRIP HAD BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE PRESIDENT UPON RECEIPT, BUT THAT NO REPLY HAD EVER BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE PALACE.

4. HILAIRE COMMENTED THAT, IN HIS PERSONAL OPINION, THE GRANTING OF SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO TRANSLINEAR (E.G. PERMISSION TO FLY TO TORTUE) MIGHT BE CONSIDERED IN LEGAL TERMS AS AN ADMISSION BY GOH THAT TRANSLINEAR'S SUB-CONTRACT AND LAND PURCHASE FROM DUPONT CARIBBEAN CONSTITUTED A VALID TRANSACTION. WHEN INFORMED THAT TRANSLINEAR HAD EXPENSIVE

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EQUIPMENT ON THE ISLAND, HILAIRE OFFERED TO ORDER THE

MILITARY COMMANDER IN THE AREA TO WATCH OVER THE EQUIPMENT.

5. EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE FROM THE GOH
ON REASONS FOR PROHIBITING FLIGHTS TO TORTUE. DEPARTMENT MAY
PASS ON SUBSTANCE OF THIS TEL (WITH EXCEPTION OF HILAIRE'S
PERSONAL OPINION) TO INTERESTED PARTIES.
CORCORAN

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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